Hunter Effort Survey: Resident Sheep and Goat Hunters, 2012

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Yukon
Environment

Hunter Effort Survey:
Resident Sheep and Goat Hunters, 2012
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2013 Hunter Effort Survey

Sheep and goat seal holders

The 2013 Hunter Effort Survey gathered information from sheep and goat seal holders following the close of the 2012 hunting season. The survey collected details on hunter effort, such as sheep and goat hunting styles, modes of transportation, hunting party size, trip length, and motivations for hunting.

Method and response

The questionnaire was designed by the Department of Environment with support from the Yukon Bureau of Statistics. The Bureau of Statistics completed the data collection, data entry, analysis and reporting.[1]

A paper questionnaire was mailed to 1,208 sheep and goat seal holders in late January, 2013. In order to support additional survey work required by the Department of Environment in the same time period, a random sample of 900 seal holders was drawn, with a minimum of 550 questionnaires targeted for completion. Telephone follow-up calls were conducted during the month of March. In total, 289 of the sampled seal holders completed the questionnaire on paper and returned it by mail, and 291 questionnaires were completed over the phone, for a total of 580 responses. Once invalid forms were removed, there were 574 responses included in the analysis.

Many respondents chose to participate in the survey over the phone with an interviewer, rather than completing and returning the paper survey form. The response rate over the phone was excellent, with a hard refusal rate of 1.6%.

Results

Respondent profile

Some basic demographic information was collected from the respondents, including their gender, age category, place of residence, and years of hunting experience.

The vast majority of the survey respondents were male (85%). Only 17% of respondents were 30 years old or younger; 32% were in the 31-45 age range, and 51% were 46 years of age or older. Fifty-five percent of the respondents said they had at least two decades of hunting experience (Figure 1). Sixty-eight percent of the respondents were living in Whitehorse on November 1, 2012.

[1] This report was prepared by Rachel Westfall, Senior Statistician, Yukon Bureau of Statistics. For more information, contact ybsinfo@gov.yk.ca.

Figure 1. Respondent demographics - summary

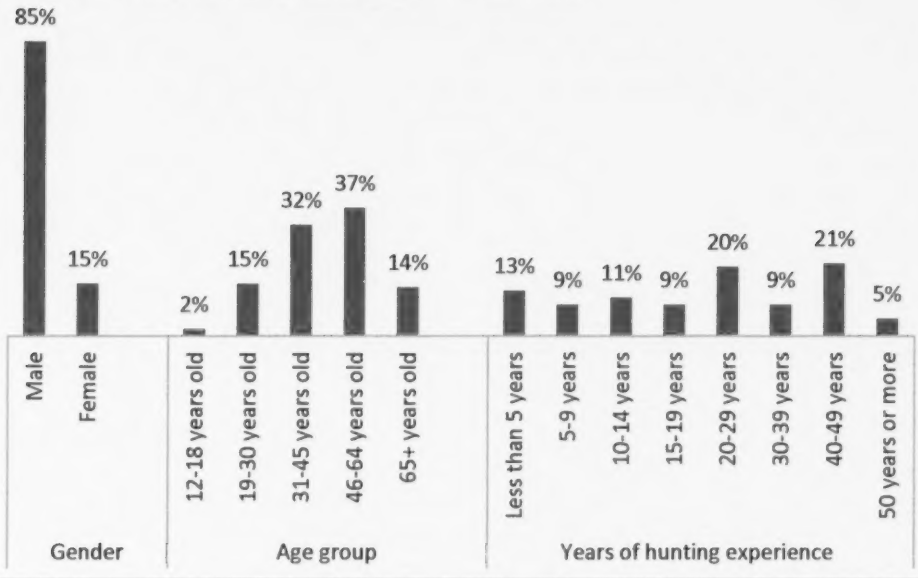
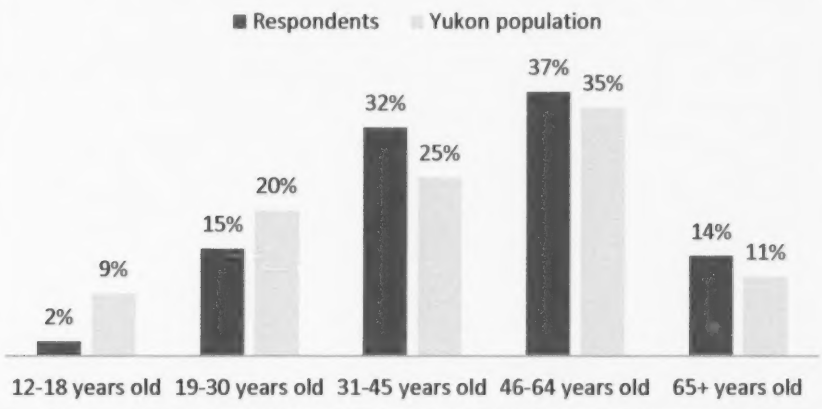


Figure 2 compares the age distribution of the respondents with that of the Yukon population.[2] Respondents were more likely to be over 30 years of age compared with the Yukon population as a whole.

Figure 2. Age distribution of respondents compared with the Yukon population

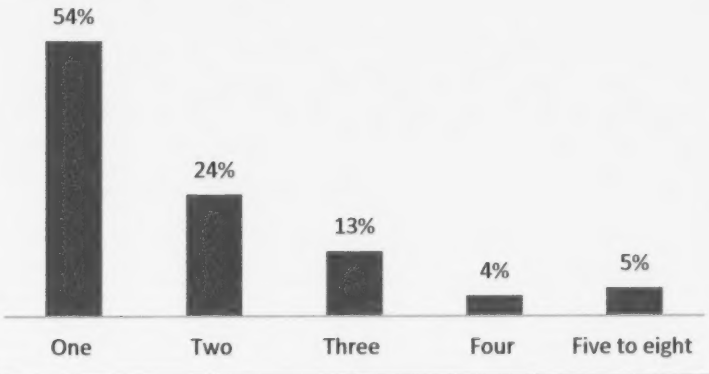


[2] Yukon Bureau of Statistics population estimate for September 2012.

Hunter effort

The majority of respondents did not hunt in the 2012 season (57%), while others hunted for sheep (38%), goat (2%), and/or other species (45%). Nearly all sheep and goat hunters (96%) planned their hunts, rather than carrying a rifle in their vehicles throughout the hunting season for use in opportune moments. Around half (54%) of those who hunted for sheep made one hunting trip in the 2012 season; the remainder made two or more trips (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Number of trips made by respondents to hunt sheep in 2012



There were eleven goat hunters who said they made between one and three trips during the 2012 hunting season. Due to the small number of goat hunters, this cannot be broken down further.

Sheep hunter effort

Seventy percent (401) of the respondents hunted sheep in Yukon at some point in their lives. Of those, 22% (90) reported an increase in their sheep hunting effort in 2012 compared to 2011, 43% (172) said their effort was unchanged, while 35% (140) reported a decrease in their effort level. The main reasons given for an increased effort were:

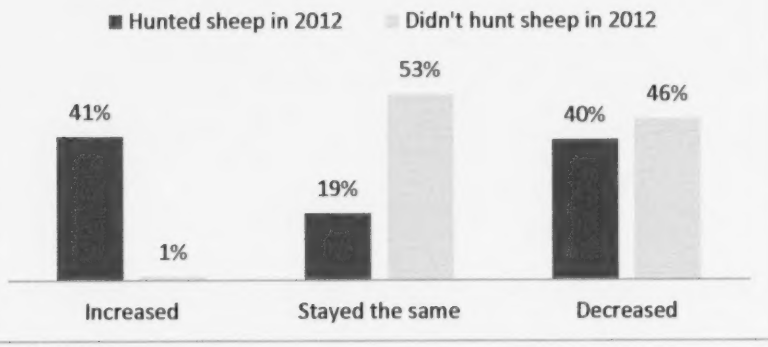
- more available time (47%),
- wanted to get outdoors (24%),
- available hunting partners 23%),
- being better equipped (19%),
- this was the first time hunting sheep (14%),
- more disposable income (8%), and
- received a permit this year (8%).

The main reasons given for a decreased effort were:

- lack of time (74%),
- health problems or injury (11%),
- did not need the meat (4%),
- did not receive a permit this year (4%), and
- felt too old to hunt (3%).

Forty-one percent of those who hunted sheep in 2012 had their hunting effort increase over the previous year, while 40% reported a decrease in effort. The effort level stayed the same for 19% (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Sheep hunter effort in 2012 compared with 2011



Of those who hunted sheep in 2012, 76% hunted in August, 36% hunted in September, and 19% hunted in October. The majority of hunts took place in Game Management Zones 5 and 7, and hunts were an average of 4.1 days in length. Appendix 1 provides further details on the number and length of hunts reported in each zone, by month.

Fifty-four percent of sheep hunters said they are likely to hunt in a different area each year; 32% generally go to the same area; the remainder did not respond to this question.

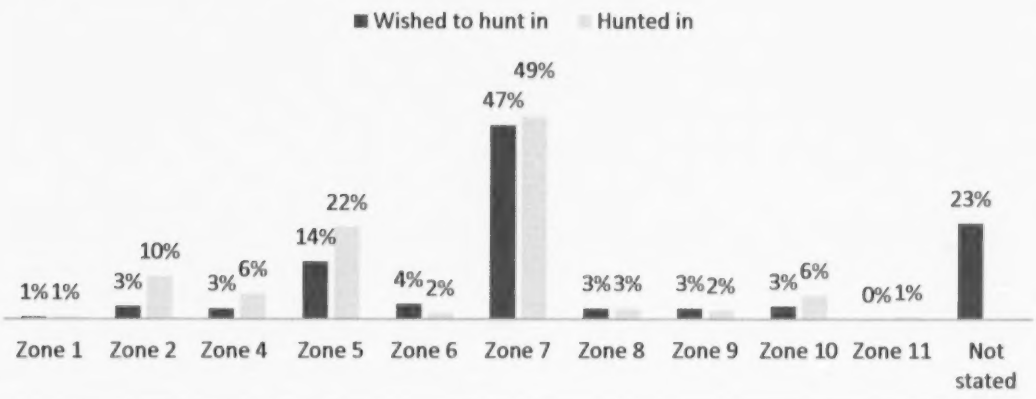
Roughly half the respondents (49%) reported food as their primary purpose for hunting sheep, and 43% said their purpose was to gain food and a trophy. Only 4% said their primary purpose was just to obtain a trophy. A few respondents (3%) gave other reasons for hunting sheep, including the outdoor experience, exercise, and sport.

Twelve percent of sheep hunters killed a sheep during the 2012 hunting season. Meanwhile, 42% did not kill a sheep, and 46% did not hunt in 2012.

Out of 217 sheep hunters in 2012, 91 (42%) hunted for sheep in a different Game Management Subzone than the one they would have preferred to hunt in. In most cases, it was because the area they wished to hunt in was under permit, and their names were not drawn. Some gave other reasons, including access problems, changes in plans, and various personal reasons.

The most popular sheep hunting areas were in Zone 7, followed by Zone 5 (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Desired and actual zones where respondents hunted for sheep in 2012 (n=195)



Goat hunter effort

Just 11% (61) of the respondents have hunted goat in Yukon at some point in their lives. Of those, 16% (10) had increased their hunting effort in 2012 over 2011, 33% (21) reported the same levels of effort, and 51% (32) said their effort had decreased. The main reasons given for an increased effort were:

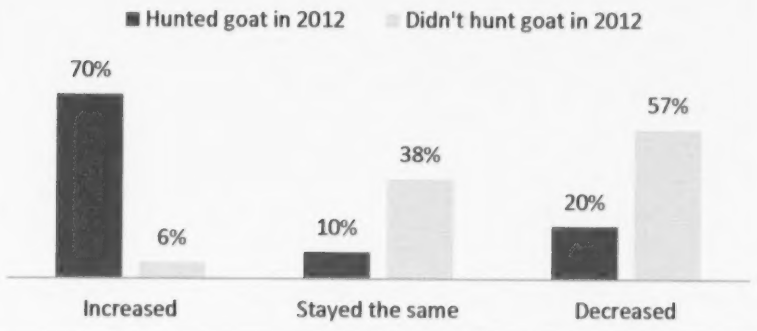
- more available time (60%),
- this was the first time hunting goat (20%),
- being better equipped (20%), and
- available hunting partners (20%).

The main reasons given for a decreased effort were:

- lack of time (48%),
- health problems or injuries (14%),
- did not hunt goat this year (14%),
- regulations (10%), and
- not enough goats (10%).

Of those who hunted goat in 2012, 70% reported an increase in hunting effort in 2012 compared to 2011, 20% reported a decrease, while the effort level stayed the same for 10% (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Goat hunter effort in 2012 compared with 2011



Of those who hunted goat in 2012, 40% hunted in August, 60% hunted in September, and 20% hunted in October. The majority of hunts took place in Game Management Zone 11, and hunts were an average of 4.2 days in length. Details on the number and length of hunts reported in each zone, by month are provided in Appendix 1.

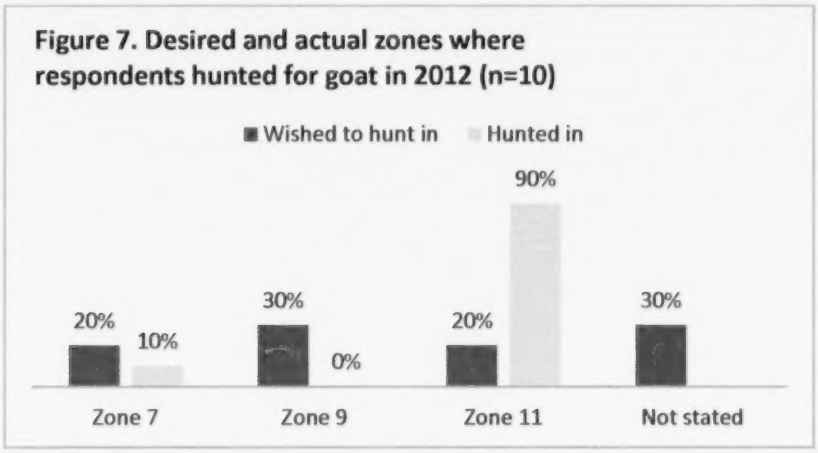
Nineteen percent of goat hunters are likely to hunt in a different area each year; 56% generally go to the same area; the remainder did not respond to this question.

For 19% of the respondents, the primary purpose for hunting goat was to gain food, while for 57%, the purpose was to gain food and a trophy. Eleven percent said their primary purpose was just to obtain a trophy. Some other reasons were given by 10% of respondents, including the challenge, sport, fun, and the experience.

Five percent of goat hunters said they killed a goat during the 2012 hunting season. Meanwhile, 12% said they did not kill a goat, and 84% said they did not hunt in 2012.

Out of ten hunters who hunted goat in 2012, five (50%) hunted in a different Game Management Subzone than the one they would have preferred to hunt in. In most cases, it was because the area they wished to hunt in was under permit, and their names were not drawn.

The most utilized goat hunting areas were in Zone 11. However, some respondents said they would have preferred to hunt in Zones 7 or 9 (Figure 7).



Recent sheep and goat hunting trips

Respondents were asked to provide information on their first, second, and third most recent sheep and goat hunting trips. The information included:

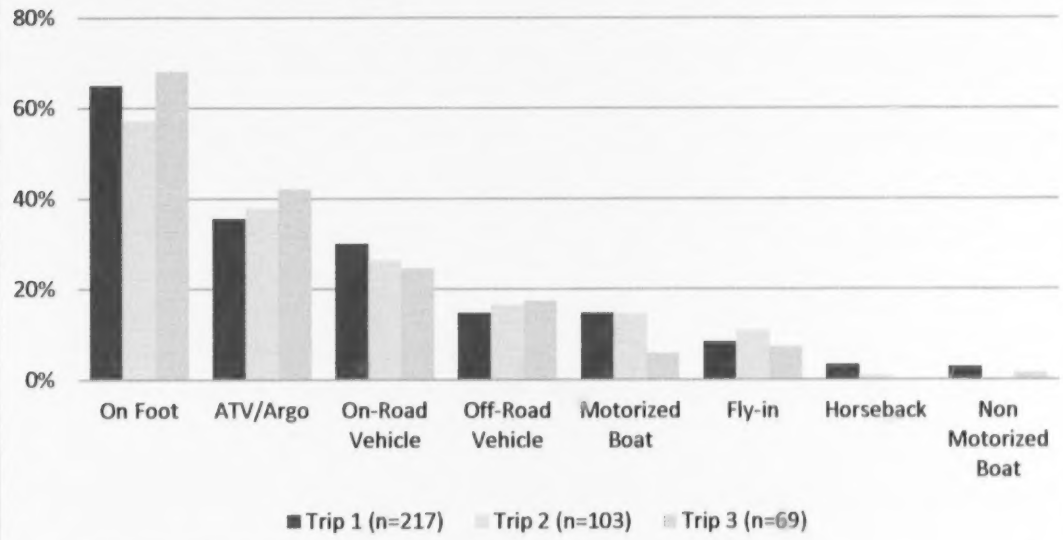
- Whether they hunted for sheep, goat, or both;
- Whether the trip was planned;
- The number of hunters in the party;
- The start date of the hunting trip;
- The number of days they hunted, and the total length of the trip, in days;
- The modes of transportation used;
- The Game Management Subzones in which the hunt took place;
- Whether they personally killed a sheep or goat on that trip;
- Whether they shared the animal amongst the hunting party.

In total, there were 389 documented trips, the vast majority of which were sheep hunting trips (96%), and most (94%) of the trips were planned. Hunting parties ranged in size from one to six people, while the majority of hunting parties were made up of two people.

Hunting trips were between one and 16 days in length. The average trip length was 3.7 days, with an average of 3.3 days spent hunting.

Most hunters used a variety of modes of transportation on their hunting trip. Hunters were most likely to travel on foot, followed by ATV or Argo use, followed by on-road vehicles (Figure 8). Off-road vehicles and motorized boats were among the other notable modes of transportation, and a small percentage of trips were to fly-in locations.

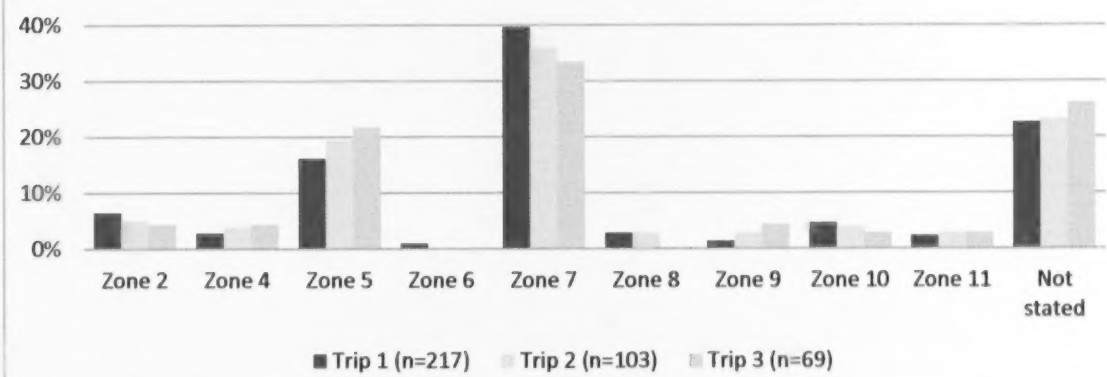
Figure 8. Modes of transportation used by respondents on their 3 most recent sheep or goat hunting trips



Zone 7 was most commonly used in the three most recent hunting trips of the hunters who participated in this survey, followed by Zone 5 (Figure 9).

Some respondents had difficulty identifying the subzones in which they had hunted. In some cases, they gave the zones but not the subzones. In other cases, they did not provide any information on where they hunted.

Figure 9. Zones where respondents hunted for sheep or goat in 2012 on their 3 most recent trips



On one of their three most recent hunting trips, 46 respondents (21%) said they personally killed a sheep, while three respondents (1%) said they personally killed a goat. Most of those who killed a sheep or goat (73%) shared it amongst their hunting party.

Summary

The 2013 Hunter Effort Survey yielded some valuable estimates of sheep and goat hunter effort. Respondents were predominantly male, and they were somewhat more likely to be over 30 years of age than the population as a whole. The majority of respondents did not hunt in the 2012 season (57%), while others hunted for sheep (38%), goat (2%), and/or other species (45%).

The majority of respondents (54%) went on one sheep hunt in 2012, and the majority of sheep hunts (76%) occurred in August. Only 22% of respondents reported an increase in their sheep hunting effort in 2012 compared to 2011. Overall, 70% of respondents have hunted sheep in Yukon at some point in the past.

The most popular zones to hunt sheep in are zones 7 and 5 respectively, with average trip length being about 4.5 days. For 42% of respondents, they hunted in a different Game Management Subzone for sheep than the one they would have preferred to hunt in. In most cases, it was because the area they wished to hunt in was under permit, and their names were not drawn. Hunting on foot was most popular, followed by ATV/Argo.

Of those who hunted goat in 2012, 40% hunted in August, 60% hunted in September, and 20% hunted in October. The majority of hunts took place in Game Management Zone 11, and hunts were an average of 4.2 days in length.

Out of ten hunters who hunted goat in 2012, five (50%) hunted in a different Game Management Subzone than the one they would have preferred to hunt in. In most cases, it was because the area they wished to hunt in was under permit, and their names were not drawn.

Appendix 1. Questionnaire and summary data

2013 Hunter Effort Survey

Sheep and goat seal holders

Yukon Environment

As a licensed sheep and/or goat hunter, your experience and knowledge is needed to help maintain hunting opportunities in Yukon. The current big game kill reporting system provides information about the number of animals harvested. However, this system does not provide any information on the amount of hunter effort. For example, we know how many hunters obtained a big game seal, but do not know how many of those people went hunting. Nor do we know if the number of hunting days needed to harvest a sheep or goat is changing. With your help, the information provided by this 'Hunter Effort Survey' will be used to maintain hunting opportunities in Yukon into the future.

Participation is voluntary, and your response is very important to us. **Please fill out the survey even if you did not participate in hunting activities during the August 1 to October 31, 2012 season**. The survey should only take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete, and all information gathered will be kept strictly confidential. Your responses will be combined with others for reporting purposes. Please note that all questions refer to hunting trips taken within Yukon.

For more information about Game Management Subzones, please refer to the enclosed Game Management Subzone map, or go to the website at:
http://www.environmentyukon.ca/maps/view/zoom/3/17/423/

Questions? Phone Environment Yukon at 667 8407 or 1 800 661 0408 ext. 8407.

The deadline for response is March 1, 2013.

Part 1: Your Hunting Habits

1.1 Which species did you spend time hunting during the 2012 season? *(Check all that apply)* **n=574**

Sheep	217 (38%)
Goat	10 (2%)
Other species	258 (45%)
Did not hunt	329 (57%)

(If you did not hunt sheep or goat during 2012, proceed to Part 2)

1.2 Of sheep and goat, what did you spend time hunting in 2012? n=245

Sheep only	210 (94%)
Goat only	4 (2%)
Sheep primarily, goat second	4 (2%)
Goat primarily, sheep second	2 (1%)
Sheep and goat equally	3 (1%)

1.3 Some people may never plan a hunt, but carry a rifle in their vehicle throughout the hunting season in the event the opportunity arises to kill an animal. Does this describe the way you generally hunt?

Yes	10 (4%)
No	233 (96%)

1.4 If no, how many hunting trips did you make during the 2012 season?

Number of trips for sheep:

One	111 (54%)
Two	49 (24%)
Three	26 (13%)
Four	8 (4%)
Five to eight	11 (5%)

Number of trips for goat:

One to three	11 (100%)

Part 2: Your Sheep Hunting Efforts

*Please fill out this part **even if you did not hunt sheep** during the 2012 season.*

2.1 If you have <u>never</u> hunted sheep in Yukon, check box and proceed to Part 3.

Never hunted sheep	173 (30%) *(Go to part 3)*
Have hunted sheep	401 (70%)

2.2 Compared to last year, please indicate if your 2012 sheep hunting effort:

Increased	90 (22%)
Decreased	140 (35%)
Stayed the same	172 (43%) *(Go to question 2.3)*

If your effort increased:

(check all that apply)

More available time	42 (47%)
More disposable income	7 (8%)
Available hunting partner(s)	21 (23%)
Better equipped	17 (19%)
Wanted to get outdoors	22 (24%)
Other	41 (46%)
None of the above	1 (1%)

Main 'other' reasons given:

This was the first time hunting sheep (13)
Received a permit this year (7)
Didn't hunt for sheep in 2011 (4)

If your effort decreased:

(check all that apply)

Lack of time	104 (74%)
Too costly	1 (1%)
Health/injury	15 (11%)
Regulations	3 (2%)
Not enough sheep	3 (2%)
Other	22 (16%)
None of the above	5 (4%)

Main 'other' reasons given:

Didn't need the meat (5)
Didn't receive a permit (5)
Getting too old to hunt (4)

2.3 As best as you can, indicate the number of days in each month that you hunted for sheep in the following Game Management Zones. Please count each partial day as 1 full day. (n=217)

	Game Management Zone *(refer to map)*									
	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11
	number of days hunted									
August 166 respondents (76%)	n=1 2 days	n=15 range: 1-11 days mean: 5.1 days	closed	n=10 range: 2-12 days mean: 4.8 days	n=40 range: 1-12 days mean: 4.45 days	n=91 range: 1-23 days mean: 4.5 days	n=7 range: 0-10 days mean: 4.4 days	n=2 range: 2-7 days mean: 4.5 days	n=13 range: 1-10 days mean: 4.4 days	n=3 range: 2-10 days mean: 5 days
September 79 respondents (36%)	n=1 6 days	n=8 range: 2-9 days mean: 3.5 days		n=7 range: 2-14 days mean: 4.7 days	n=22 range: 1-10 days mean: 3.6 days	n=33 range: 1-13 days mean: 3.8 days	n=2 range: 2-3 days mean: 2.5 days	n=2 range: 2-3 days mean: 2.5 days	n=8 range: 1-5 days mean: 2.9 days	n=1 3 days
October 41 respondents (19%)	n=2 range: 3-5 days mean: 4 days	n=5 range: 1-7 days mean: 4 days		n=5 range: 2-8 days mean: 4.8 days	n=8 range: 1-10 days mean: 3.4 days	n=16 range: 1-6 days mean: 2.1 days	n=1 1 day	n=2 range: 2-3 days mean: 2.5 days	n=3 range: 2-4 days mean: 2.7 days	n=0

2.4 When you hunt for sheep, do you generally go to:

The same area each year	127 (32%)
Different area each year	218 (54%)
Don't know, Refuse, or Not Applicable	56 (14%)

2.5 What is your primary purpose for hunting sheep?

Food	197 (49%)
Trophy	14 (4%)
Food and trophy equally	173 (43%)
Other	12 (3%)

'Other' reasons given: the outdoor experience, exercise, and sport.

2.6 Did you harvest a sheep during the 2012 hunting season?

Yes	46 (12%)
No	170 (42%)
Did not hunt in 2012	184 (46%)

2.7 Please enter the Game Management Subzone(s) you <u>wished</u> to hunt for sheep in:

Note: Data not releasable due to a high number of invalid responses

2.8 Please enter the Game Management Subzone(s) you <u>actually</u> hunted for sheep in:

Note: Data not releasable due to a high number of invalid responses

2.9 If your answers to 7 and 8 are different, was this because: *(Please choose one)*

The area you wished to hunt in was under permit, and your name was not drawn	78 (38%)
The area you wished to hunt in was closed to hunting	2 (1%)
Other	11 (5.3%)
Not applicable	96 (46%)

'Other' reasons given: access issues, a change in plans, and personal reasons.

Part 3: Your Goat Hunting Efforts

*Please fill out this part **even if you did not hunt goat** during the 2012 season.*

3.1 If you have <u>never</u> hunted goat in Yukon, check box and proceed to Part 3.

Never hunted goat	513 (89%) *(Go to part 4)*
Have hunted goat	61 (11%)

3.2 Compared to last year, please indicate if your 2012 goat hunting effort:

Increased	10 (16%)
Decreased	21 (33%)
Stayed the same	32 (51%) (Go to question 3.3)

If your effort increased:
(check all that apply)

More available time	6 (60%)
More disposable income	1 (10%)
Available hunting partner(s)	2 (20%)
Better equipped	2 (20%)
Wanted to get outdoors	1 (10%)
Other	3 (30%)
None of the above	1 (10%)

'Other' reasons given:
This was the first time hunting goat (2)
Received a permit (1)

If your effort decreased:
(check all that apply)

Lack of time	10 (48%)
Too costly	1 (5%)
Health/injury	3 (14%)
Regulations	2 (10%)
Not enough goats	2 (10%)
Other	8 (38%)
None of the above	1 (5%)

'Other' reasons given:
Didn't hunt goat this year (3)
Didn't receive a permit (2)
Distance to hunting zone (2)
Getting too old to hunt (1)

3.3 As best as you can, indicate the number of days in each month that you hunted for goat in the following Game Management Zones. Please count each partial day as 1 full day.

	Game Management Zone *(refer to map)*									
	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11
	number of days hunted									
August 4 respondents	closed					n=0	closed			n=4 range: 1-10 days mean: 4.3 days
September 6 respondents						n=0				n=6 range: 2-8 days mean: 5 days
October 2 respondents						n=1 2 days				n=1 2 days

3.4 When you hunt for goat, do you generally go to:

The same area each year	35 (56%)
Different area each year	12 (19%)
Don't know, Refuse, or Not Applicable	16 (25%)

3.5 What is your primary purpose for hunting goat?

Food	12 (19%)
Trophy	7 (11%)
Food and trophy equally	36 (57%)
Other	6 (10%)

Other reasons given: challenge, sport, fun and experience

3.6 Did you harvest a goat during the 2012 hunting season?

Yes	3 (5%)
No	7 (12%)
Did not hunt in 2012	51(84%)

3.7 Please enter the Game Management Subzone(s) you wished to hunt for goat in:

Note: Data not releasable due to a high number of invalid responses

3.8 Please enter the Game Management Subzone(s) you actually hunted for goat in:

Note: Data not releasable due to a high number of invalid responses

3.9 If your answers to 7 and 8 are different, was this because: *(Please choose one)*

The area you wished to hunt in was under permit, and your name was not drawn	4 (40%)
The area you wished to hunt in was closed to hunting	0
Don't know	1 (10%)
Not applicable	5 (50%)

Part 4: Most Recent Yukon Sheep or Goat Hunting Trips

Please consider each partial day of hunting as one whole day, and any partial day trips (e.g. an afternoon hunt or carrying a gun when traveling the highway in case the opportunity to take an animal arises) as a single hunting trip.

	Most recent trip (n = 217)	Second most recent trip (n = 103)	Third most recent trip (n = 69)
4.1 Did you hunt for:	Sheep: 211 (97%) Goat: 4 (2%) Both sheep and goat: 2 (1%)	Sheep: 99 (96%) Goat: 4 (4%) Both sheep and goat: 0	Sheep: 65 (94%) Goat: 4 (6%) Both sheep and goat: 0
4.2 Was this a planned hunting trip?	Yes: 205 (94%) No: 7 (3%) Not stated: 5 (3%)	Yes: 95 (92%) No: 6 (6%) Not stated: 2 (2%)	Yes: 67 (98%) No: 1 (2%)
4.3 Including yourself, how many hunters were in the hunting party?	One: 45 (21%) Two: 114 (53%) Three: 41 (19%) Four to six: 14 (5%) Not stated: 3 (2%)	One: 19 (18%) Two: 60 (58%) Three: 16 (16%) Four: 4 (4%) Not stated: 4 (4%)	One: 13 (19%) Two: 34 (49%) Three to six: 17 (25%) Not stated: 5 (7%)
4.4 Start date of hunting trip:	August 1-15: 71 (33%) August 16-31: 29 (13%) September 1-15: 24 (11%) September 16-30: 6 (3%) October 1-15: 11 (5%) October 16-31: 13 (6%) Not stated: 63 (29%)	August 1-15: 20 (19%) August 16-31: 12 (11%) September 1-15: 14 (13%) September 16-30: 5 (5%) October 1-31: 6 (6%) Not stated: 46 (43%)	August 1-15: 14 (20%) August 16-30: 5 (7%) September 1-30: 9 (13%) October 1-31: 5 (7%) Not stated: 36 (52%)
4.5 Number of days you hunted:	One: 34 (16%) Two: 48 (22%) Three: 54 (25%) Four: 25 (12%) Five: 20 (9%) Six: 8 (4%) Seven: 7 (3%) Eight to sixteen: 11 (5%) Not stated: 10 (5%)	One: 16 (16%) Two: 25 (24%) Three: 25 (24%) Four: 8 (8%) Five to ten: 17 (17%) Not stated: 12 (12%)	One: 14 (20%) Two: 15 (22%) Three: 12 (17%) Four to eleven: 14 (20%) Not stated: 14 (20%)
4.6 Total length of trip in days:	One: 28 (13%) Two: 26 (12%) Three: 58 (27%) Four: 36 (17%) Five: 18 (8%) Six: 10 (5%) Seven: 14 (6%) Eight to eighteen: 15 (7%) Not stated: 12 (6%)	One: 14 (14%) Two: 21 (20%) Three: 24 (23%) Four: 10 (10%) Five: 6 (6%) Six to twelve: 14 (14%) Not stated: 14 (14%)	One: 14 (20%) Two: 10 (14%) Three: 11 (16%) Four: 5 (7%) Five to eleven: 13 (19%) Not stated: 16 (23%)
4.7 What type(s) of transportation did you use on your hunting trip? *(Check all that apply)*	Fly-in: 18 (8%) ATV or Argo: 77 (35%) Vehicle - on road: 65 (30%) Vehicle - 4x4 off-road: 32 (15%) Motorized boat: 32 (15%) Non-motorized boat: 6 (3%) On foot: 141 (65%) Horseback: 7 (3%)	Fly-in: 11 (11%) ATV or Argo: 39 (38%) Vehicle - on road: 27 (26%) Vehicle - 4x4 off-road: 17 (17%) Motorized boat: 15 (15%) Non-motorized boat: 0 On foot: 60 (58%) Horseback: 1 (1%)	Fly-in: 5 (7%) ATV or Argo: 29 (42%) Vehicle - on road: 17 (25%) Vehicle - 4x4 off-road: 12 (17%) Motorized boat: 4 (6%) Non-motorized boat: 1 (1%) On foot: 47 (68%) Horseback: 0

4.8 In which Game Management Subzone or Subzones did you hunt? *(List all that apply; see map for reference)*	Zone 2: 14 (6%) Zone 4: 6 (3%) Zone 5: 35 (16%) Zone 6: 2 (1%) Zone 7: 86 (40%) Zone 8: 6 (3%) Zone 9: 3 (1%) Zone 10: 10 (5%) Zone 11: 5 (2%) Not stated: 49 (23%)	Zone 2: 5 (5%) Zone 4: 4 (4%) Zone 5: 20 (19%) Zone 7: 37 (36%) Zone 8: 3 (3%) Zone 9: 3 (3%) Zone 10: 4 (4%) Zone 11: 3 (3%) Not stated: 24 (23%)	Zone 2: 3 (4%) Zone 4: 3 (4%) Zone 5: 15 (22%) Zone 7: 23 (33%) Zone 9: 3 (4%) Zone 10: 2 (3%) Zone 11: 2 (3%) Not stated: 18 (26%)
4.9 Did *you* personally kill a sheep and/or goat on this trip? If so, in which Game Management Subzone (GMS)?	Yes, sheep: 37 (17%) Yes, goat: 2 (1%) Neither: 178 (82%)	Yes, sheep: 4 (4%) Yes, goat: 0 Neither: 99 (96%)	Yes, sheep: 5 (7%) Yes, goat: 1 (1%) Neither: 63 (91%)
4.10 If *you* killed a sheep or goat on this trip, did you share the animal amongst the hunting party?	Yes: 26 (12%) No: 7 (3%) Hunted alone: 6 (3%) Did not kill an animal: 177 (82%)	Yes: 4 (4%) No: 0 Hunted alone: 0 Did not kill an animal: 99 (96%)	Yes: 6 (9%) No: 0 Hunted alone: 0 Did not kill an animal: 63 (91%)

Part 5: About you

5.1 You are:

Male	490 (85%)
Female	84 (15%)

5.2 Your age group:

12-18	9 (2%)
19-30	88 (15%)
31-45	182 (32%)
46-64	212 (37%)
65+	78 (14%)
Not stated	5 (1%)

5.3 How many years have you hunted in Yukon?

Less than 5 years	114 (20%)
5-9 years	84 (15%)
10-14 years	68 (12%)
15-19 years	33 (6%)
20-29 years	91 (16%)
30-39 years	40 (7%)
40-49 years	98 (17%)
50 years or more	22 (4%)
Not stated	24 (4%)

5.4 How many years have you hunted elsewhere?

Less than 5 years	325 (57%)
5-9 years	18 (3%)
10-14 years	52 (9%)
15-19 years	44 (8%)
20-29 years	54 (9%)
30-39 years	14 (2%)
40-49 years	28 (5%)
50 years or more	8 (2%)
Not stated	31 (5%)

Derived variable: Total years hunting experience ***(greatest reply to 5.3 and 5.4)***

Less than 5 years	73 (13%)
5-9 years	53 (9%)
10-14 years	62 (11%)
15-19 years	52 (9%)
20-29 years	114 (20%)
30-39 years	50 (9%)
40-49 years	121 (21%)
50 years or more	30 (5%)
Not stated	19 (3%)

5.5 In which community did you live on November 1, 2012?

Beaver Creek	<5
Burwash Landing	6 (1%)
Carcross	11 (2%)
Carmacks	10 (2%)
Dawson City	18 (3%)
Destruction Bay	<5
Faro	21 (4%)
Haines Junction	28 (5%)
Keno or Elsa	<5
Marsh Lake	12 (2%)
Mayo	9 (2%)
Old Crow	<5
Pelly Crossing	0
Ross River	11 (2%)
Tagish	7 (1%)
Teslin	17 (3%)
Watson Lake	14 (2%)
Whitehorse	391 (68%)
Other	11 (2%)

Thank you! Please return your completed survey in the enclosed envelope.

Appendix II. Recommendations for future surveys

While the Department of Environment has undertaken Hunter Effort Surveys in the past, this was the first survey to target sheep and goat seal holders. It was unusual in the use of random sampling, as the surveys have typically been conducted as a census of all hunters who are willing to participate and are eligible to complete the survey. Random sampling was used in this survey to avoid delivering a Hunter Satisfaction Survey at the same time to hunters who were chosen for the Sheep and Goat Hunter Effort Survey. It was felt that "survey fatigue" may become a factor, with hunters being less likely to respond to two surveys in a short period of time.

In future, should a sample be drawn from a survey respondent pool, it would be ideal if the sample were stratified to effectively represent all the hunter populations which will be examined in the analysis. In this year's sample frame, there were a larger number of sheep seal holders than goat seal holders. Heavier sampling amongst the goat seal holders may have yielded more robust data in that category.

Though respondents were comfortable identifying Game Management Zones, there were some challenges in interpreting the subzone map enclosed with the survey, and identifying the subzones in which they hunted. This led to some respondents' reluctance in filling out the paper questionnaire, and incomplete answers were provided by others. The questions regarding subzones would be worth refining for future renditions of the survey.